

# The Bible Corner

Cindy Cottone



## Shout!

God always answers prayers. Just as there are many different ways to pray, there are also many ways these answers come from God.

Sometimes, the answers to prayers come in ways that are beyond human explanation. These dramatic answers to prayers are called miracles.

Both the Old Testament and the New Testament reveal that there were many times when God performed miracles in answer to prayers. These miracles showed the power of God working in the lives of His people. In order for a miracle to have happened, God's people had to be both completely obedient to Him and to have believed without a doubt in His power to save them.

In the Old Testament are stories of how God provided many leaders for His people. Moses was the leader God appointed to show the people the way out of Egypt and into the Promised Land of Canaan. Moses died before they reached Canaan, and Joshua took

over as the new leader of God's people.

God never breaks His promises to us. So under the leadership of Joshua, the people kept walking towards Canaan. Soon they came upon two very large roadblocks on their journey. The first one was the River Jordan. It was harvest time, and the river waters were so high that they had overflowed their banks. The people began to ask Joshua how they were ever going to get to the other side.

The second roadblock to the Promised Land was even worse. It was the city of Jericho. Not only were the people of Jericho the evil enemies of the Jewish people, but the city was completely surrounded by tall, thick stone walls. The city of Jericho was also equipped with its own army of warriors.

Because God had promised this land to His people, they continued to believe in Him, even when they found themselves up against these two huge roadblocks. Joshua prayed to the Lord, and God sent an angel to tell him exactly what to do.

In the morning, the people all went down to the banks of the Jordan River. The priests marched right into the river while carrying the Ark of the Covenant. As soon as their feet hit the water, the river parted and formed a huge wall of water on either side. The priests waited in the middle of the dry ground of the river bed, while all of the people crossed safely to the other side. Then the priests followed and the river closed back up again over the dry land. End of roadblock one!

When the people of Jericho heard about this miracle, they locked all of the city gates. But this didn't bother Joshua or the people, because they were sure that God was going to give this city over to them just as He had promised. So they camped outside the city walls for the night.

The next morning, the people of Jericho saw a very strange sight indeed. First came seven priests with seven trumpets. After them marched the priests who carried the Ark of the Covenant. Behind them marched all the rest of the people. This impressive parade marched around the whole city once. The only sound the marchers made was to blow the trumpets or shout when Joshua told them to.

Now this shout wasn't your everyday, run-of-the-mill yell or scream. This shout was a great, booming victory cry

of the people. It was a sort of "thank you, Lord, I know you are going to do it" cry. This shout was a symbol of the people's faith in God to answer their prayers.

After the people had marched around Jericho that single time, they returned to camp. They did the very same thing each day for six days. On the seventh day, they marched around Jericho seven times. By the seventh time around those walls, they were blowing the trumpets and shouting the victory cry like crazy!

While the people were still shouting, the thick, huge walls of Jericho fell to the ground with a mighty roar. The city of Jericho was now theirs, just as God had promised.

### For discussion:

1) What did God promise to the Jewish people? What does God promise us today?

2) Why did God answer the prayers of the Jewish people?

3) Why did the Jewish people shout as they marched around the city of Jericho?

### For further reading:

The story of Joshua and the miracles at Jericho can be found in the Old Testament in Joshua 3-6.

Do you have a question about the Bible? Mail your questions to Cindy Cottone c/o the Courier-Journal.

## Kearney Band Wins

The Bishop Kearney Marching Kings brought two awards home from the Fall Festival of Bands field band competition September 28 in Medina. The annual event featured New York State Field Band Conference bands from Rochester and Buffalo. Field bands combine a marching band with color guards and twirling groups.

The Kings, directed by Arthur Rietman, won in Class AA competition and for best drum line. Performed to the Latin beat of "Maccarena," the show featured soloists

Steve Pavone, Larry Feasel and mellophone soloist Heather Hewitt.

The Aquinas Institute "Lil Irish" marching band also competed in Medina and scored third place in Class A competition. Honoring the school's 60th anniversary, the band's show focused on a celebration theme.

Conference competitions will continue through October, concluding with the state championship held at Syracuse's Carrier Dome in November.

## Bishop at Nazareth

Bishop Matthew H. Clark celebrated the opening liturgy with Nazareth Academy students on Wednesday, Sept. 11, in the school auditorium. Urging students to influence one another positively, the Bishop said in his homily "Be light to each other; shine out with all your gifts and talents."

After Mass, he ate breakfast with the Student Senate and class officers. During the meal, they discussed leadership and the Diocesan Youth Conference, concluding with a prayer. This is the sixth year the Bishop has celebrated opening liturgy with Nazareth students.

## Religious Physicians Meet

The Association of Sister, Brother and Priest Physicians gathered for its annual meeting and retreat last month at the Pallotine Renewal Center near St. Louis. Sister Marguerite Dynski, SSJ, MD, of Rochester was elected president by the 18 physicians who participated in the five-day event. Ten congregations were represented.

Highlighting this year's agenda were presentations on the role of Catholic institutions

in the rapidly changing health care environment, the right to health care, the Catholic health care system, and the lack of preparation for religious physicians to function as power brokers in the health care industry.

The association, formed in 1983, provides religious physicians with a support system and offers an avenue for its members to exchange experiences.

## CHD Applications

Pre-application forms for funds from the national Campaign for Human Development (CHD) are now available at the diocesan CHD office. A pre-application must be on file in both diocesan and national CHD offices by November 1 to qualify for 1986 awards.

For forms or more information, contact:

Monroe or Livingston counties — Sister Chris Wagner, 50 Chestnut Plaza, Rochester, N.Y., 14604, (716)546-4894; Yates, Ontario, Wayne, Seneca and Cayuga counties — Chris Grannis, 110 Exchange St., Geneva, N.Y., 14456, (315)789-2686; Chemung, Schuyler, Tompkins and Tioga counties — Kathy Dubel, 160 High St., Elmira, N.Y., 14901, (607)734-9784.

# Vote for an effective City Council



**JOHN ERB** 7A

John Erb is a strong voice on City Council. His re-election insures four more years of independence and hard work.



**JOHN CURRAN** 8A

A vote for John Curran is a vote for experienced leadership and integrity on City Council.



**RUTH SCOTT** 9A

Ruth Scott's re-election will mean continued reason and sound judgment in facing all types of issues that will determine our future.



**TIM MAINS** 10A

As a member of City Council, Tim's enthusiasm, intelligence and talent will bring new life and sensitivity to city government.



**JOAN HENSLER** 11A

A voice for community concerns and advocate for all parts of the community will continue in City Hall with Joan's re-election.

# Democrats for City Council

November 5th

6 A.M.-9 P.M.

# Keep Rochester Growing

PAID FOR BY CITIZENS FOR AN EFFECTIVE CITY COUNCIL